

## **Play**

### **Grades 9-12 Skills List**

The writer of a competent play/script demonstrates most or all of the following skills:

#### **PURPOSE/AUDIENCE**

- Meets the reader's needs and expectations by adhering to the conventions of a play
- Focuses on the purpose
- Narrows the topic enough to be developed in a play
- Develops an appropriate voice for each character
- Creates a title which captures the essence of the piece and creates audience interest

#### **IDEA DEVELOPMENT/SUPPORT**

- Develops characters through dialogue, thoughts, actions
- Develops setting through stage directions, props, lighting
- Develops conflict and resolution
- Uses dialogue to develop character and plot
- Creates a mood through details, dialogue, setting, character movement, props and lighting
- Builds narrative tension
- Employs literary devices (e.g., foreshadowing, flashback, symbolism)

#### **ORGANIZATION**

- Includes a cast of characters
- Describes setting in terms of time and place
- Divides the play into acts and scenes
- Identifies speeches by character name
- Includes stage directions for character movement and scenery changes
- Places ideas and details in meaningful order
- Concludes effectively

#### **SENTENCES**

- Writes complete and varied sentences
- Uses various structures (including fragments and run-ons) to create authentic dialogue

#### **LANGUAGE**

- Chooses language appropriate to the purpose and character
- Uses descriptive language
- Makes subjects and verbs agree
- Employs correct usage

#### **CORRECTNESS**

- Spells correctly
- Uses correct end punctuation, commas, apostrophes
- Capitalizes correctly
- Makes few errors in correctness which do not interfere with the meaning of the piece

<p>As students move from grade to grade, they demonstrate growth in the control and complexity with which they use these skills.</p>
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